

APPROVED JANUARY 26, 2009

At 7:05 PM the meeting was called to order by Chairman Charles Kimball. The members of the Fremont Budget Committee present were: Chairman Charles Kimball, Andy Kohlhofer, Mike Nygren, Doug McElroy, Pat Martel, Selectman Donald Gates, School Board Representative Peg Pinkham, Kathleen Bailey from Rockingham News and Recording Secretary Jeanne Nygren.

Martel handed out a spreadsheet with the proposed cuts to the School Budget from the Budget Committee that was done at the January 19, 2009 Committee meeting. The Budget Committee has recommended \$422,897. as a reduction so far and will continue with the remainder of the budget tonight.

A motion to table the minutes of the Public Hearing of January 13, 2009 was made by Pinkham as some of the members hadn't read them yet, seconded by McElroy, the vote was unanimous 7-0.

Pinkham had the answer on the questions the Committee asked about the estimate amount to Sanborn for 2008-2009 that was approved at District meeting. There were 212 students, down to 207 students. There is a \$135,000 overage in the tuition line for this year's current budget.

1100-Regular Education. In the Supplies line 10-1100-5610-10-0000 that the Budget Committee cuts on the figures in the book. The 577 figure used was incorrect it should have been 549 students. The amount requested was correct but the amount per pupil was wrong. Pinkham didn't know if the Budget Committee wanted to revote on this cut that was made on Monday. Kohlhofer answered no they wanted to keep the cut as it was originally done.

1400-Other Programs. In Athletics the Budget Committee voted to eliminate the salaries and have the parents fund these programs. Pinkham supplied information from the SAU that you can eliminate as voted but they cannot accept the fee or collect fees if it comes from the parents, it has to come out of their general budgetary requests. Pinkham asked does the Budget Committee want to reconsider this vote because they cannot accept money under the Collective Bargaining Agreement. Martel asked can the line item be left open with a small amount in it. Gates said the Police Department has special details that they receive money as an offset, why would this be the same. Nygren asked if they have a user fee in the Town. Kohlhofer said maybe they need to renegotiate the contract in regards to athletics for the children. Pinkham made a motion to reconsider this vote because the information was inaccurate and it was an assumption, McElroy seconded. After a pole of the Budget Committee there was a negative vote to reconsider this vote 7-0.

Kohlhofer said there is a million dollar increase in the School budget and that is without the contractual agreements and the Town cannot afford this. He doesn't like cutting but this is what needs to be done

Gates asked when the next contract comes. Pinkham said next year. She doesn't know what has been discussed. Gates feels that there should be a member of the Budget Committee to be part of these contract negotiations. Pinkham is going to find out the numbers in participation. Kohlhofer said the Budget Committee was supposed to be getting a copy of the current contract. Pinkham will provide this to the Committee as soon as she gets it.

Nygren asked at the Public Hearing for the last budget for public high school regular education 2008-2009 the Town requested \$2,829,761. voted to approve this and the voters approved. This year 2009-2010 proposed budget figure had \$2,724,427. (Page 16 in the new book, old book page 21.) There is a discrepancy of \$ 105,000. in the actual difference over what we paid at Sanborn Regional than was approved. Pinkham will get the answer on this question. Martel thought the money was shifted to another line item.

Pinkham asked on page 5 the Committee cut a first grade teacher and a second grade teacher and the capacity figures need to be looked at again. Pinkham agreed as far as capacity in first grade the figures were okay and you need to include the teacher and the aide in the total. Also in the second grade they have a problem with the capacity in eliminating a classroom. She wanted to make certain they knew what they were voting on.

Gates asked on page 4 in the home school, out of district placement, charter schools does the Town pay a percentage. Pinkham said yes there is a portion in home school but they don't pay for the curriculum, they pay for support. Out of district placement they do and charter they pay for support.

Nygren asked about the number of seniors at Sanborn in comparison to the number of students graduating. Pinkham said as of January 1st there are 48. She will find out how many seniors are at Sanborn.

Pinkham had information on benefits because they are recommending sectional cuts; they work on 15% for benefits as the figure for their calculations. Nygren asked for the information how many are in each plan and the cost for each plan.

2100-Truant Officer-A motion was made to keep \$1.00 in Truant Officer 2100 line by Kimball, seconded by Kohlhofer. The vote was unanimous 7-0.

2120-Guidance -A motion to approve 2120-Guidance in the amount of \$126,474.00 as requested was made by Pinkham, seconded by Gates. The vote was approved 6-0, Kohlhofer voted no.

2130-Nurse-Kohlhofer asked why we need 1 1/2 nurse. Pinkham said for medication, medical attention and that figure is up significantly due to the increase in number of students with medical problems. A motion to reduce the 10-2130-5731-10-0000 new health equipment by \$1,452.00 by Kohlhofer, seconded McElroy. The vote was unanimous 7-0. A motion to approve 2130 Nurse line in the amount of \$72,952.42 was made by Martel, seconded McElroy, and the vote was unanimously approved 7-0. Kohlhofer asked what contract the nurse is covered under. Pinkham will find out. The Budget Committee may want to look at this again after the question is answered on contract for the nurse.

2140-Psychological- Nygren felt this falls under administrative raises and not step raises. Martel calculated the FICA from previous years and the figure is wrong and that it has a \$2,900.00 raise in it. Pinkham will find out the correct figures in this line. Kimball feels this should be revisited again on Monday. Nygren asked contract work \$12,000 psychiatric services in FY 09, now they are requesting \$48,000 this is a \$36,000 increase. Pinkham said she will ask for all figures to be reverified. Pinkham could ask Bonnie Sandstrom to come in next Monday if needed. Kohlhofer thought this was a good idea.

2150-Speech-Kohlhofer said we don't have the updated expenses for 2009 which would help. Pinkham will provide these figures for the Committee. Pinkham said there is a critical shortage in the speech position and this position is still open. This is services identified in IEPs and the percentage is high in this number that needs speech. Kohlhofer said \$3,000. was budgeted and they have already spent \$32,000.00. Pinkham said this will be a bottom line budget. She will get a breakdown of where the money is spent. Kohlhofer asked for the list identified for IEPs in physical therapy and occupational therapy and that isn't on the sheets on page 31 through 33.

2162-Physical Therapy Contract Services-A motion to approve 2162 for Physical Therapy Contract Services in the amount of \$12,500.00 was made by Pinkham, seconded by McElroy. The vote was unanimously approved 7-0.

Pinkham doesn't have the new figures on what the School Board changed, printed yet on their \$300,000. cut proposal from their meeting last Thursday, therefore the figures the Budget Committee has in their books are not accurate until the updates are done and provided.

At 9:15 PM a motion to take a five minute recess was made by Kimball, seconded by Kohlhofer. The vote was unanimous 7-0.

The meeting was called back to order by Chairman Kimball at 9:20 PM.

Pinkham passed out the sheet with cuts that the School Board eliminated \$309,113.00. She had the answer regarding the two positions that were on page 94 and that they are not in Special Education, these are grant funded for aids. These grants haven't been approved yet.

2163-Occupational Services-A motion to approve \$117,019.39 for 2163-Occupational Services was made by Pinkham, seconded by McElroy. The vote to approve was 3-4 with the motion being denied. The motion is denied. A motion to approve the amount of \$117,000. for 2163 Occupational Services was made by Pinkham, seconded by Kohlhofer. The vote was unanimously approved 7-0.

2169-Vision Contracted Services-A motion by Martel to approve \$600, for 2169 Vision Contracted Services and seconded by McElroy. The vote was unanimously approved 7-0.

2210-Improvement of Instruction-The Committee feels their needs to be a better definition where these figures come from. FICA was in the 2008 and the cut in 2009. Pinkham will get this for Monday. A motion to eliminate 10-2210-5112-10-0000 the Staff Development Co-coordinator by \$11,500.00 was made by Kohlhofer and seconded by Martel. The vote was 6-1. A motion to cut 10-2210-5220-10-0000 the FICA of \$880.00 by Kohlhofer and seconded by McElroy. The vote was 6-1. A motion of \$40,000.00 for the grand total of Improvement of Instruction 2210 was made by Martel, seconded Kohlhofer. The vote was 6-1.

2220-Library Media-Repair AV Equipment-This salary line is up by \$3,322.00. Pinkham said this is because she is qualified differently now. The Committee found an error in the FICA calculation for the 08-09 figure, it should be \$2,504.00 not \$1,707.99. A motion to recommend \$47,912.13 in 2222 Library Media-Repair AV Equipment was made by Kohlhofer, seconded by Martel. The vote was unanimously approved 7-0. The reduction was 10-2222-5640-10-0000 \$1,300.00 Library Books; 10-2222-5641-10-0000 Library Reference Books \$2,000.00; line 10-2222-5650-10-0000 Computer Software \$200.00; line 10-2222-5734-10-0000 New Computer Equipment \$900.00; and line 10-2223-5731-10-0000 New AV Equipment \$400.00 for a total of \$4800.00. This motion was recommended by Kohlhofer and seconded by Martel. The vote was unanimously approved 7-0.

2225-Computer Technology-The School Board cut \$24,065 Salary line, FICA \$1,841.00 line for a total of \$25,906.00. Pinkham said there is a volunteer group that will be doing a complete audit. A motion was made by Pinkham to reduce the grand total buy \$24,065 and FICA \$1,840.98; for a line total of \$59,155.95, seconded Kohlhofer. The vote was unanimous 7-0.

2310-School Board-A motion to cut line 10-2310-5332-00-0000 Annual Meeting by \$1,000 and line 10-2310-5542-00-0000 School Board Newsletter by \$1,500.00 for a grand total of \$72,615.00 for 2310 School Board by Kohlhofer, seconded by Gates. The vote was unanimous 7-0.

2330-Special Education Administration-The School Board had cut this \$55,076.00 The Budget Committee recommended cutting 10-2330-5220-00-0000 SPED FICA \$4,208.00, 10-2330-5291-10-0000 Staff Workshops by \$1,000.00, 10-2330-5580-00-0000 cut by \$1,900.00 Coordinator/Staff Travel A motion by Pinkham \$102,711.68, seconded by McElroy. The vote was unanimous 7-0.

A motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Kohlhofer, seconded by Nygren. The vote was unanimous 7-0.

The meeting adjourned at 10:05 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Jeanne Nygren
Recording Secretary